

Endlicheria lhotzkyi (Nees) Mez (Magnoliophyta: Laurales: Lauraceae): First record for the state of Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil

Flávio Macedo Alves^{1*}, Sergianne Frison² and Carlos Rodrigo Lehn³

1 Universidade de São Paulo, Instituto de Biociências - ESALQ - Herbário ESA, Av. Pádua Dias 11, Caixa Postal 9. CEP 13418-900. Piracicaba, SP, Brazil.

2 Universidade Estadual Paulista Júlio de Mesquita Filho. CEP. 13506-900. Rio Claro, SP, Brazil.

3 Instituto Federal de Mato Grosso do Sul - IFMS Campus Coxim, Rua Pereira Gomes 355, Bairro Novo Mato Grosso. CEP 79400-000. Coxim, MS, Brazil.

* Corresponding author. E-mail: flaurace@yahoo.com.br

ABSTRACT: *Endlicheria lhotzkyi* is the first time recorded for the Brazilian state of Mato Grosso do Sul, collected in the municipal district of Sonora, north of the state. Taxonomic comments and an identification key of *Endlicheria* species from Mato Grosso do Sul is presented.

Lauraceae form a large pantropical family of about 50 genera and approximately 2750 species of trees and shrubs or rarely parasitic vines (*Cassytha* L.). The family is pantropical, with centers of diversity in northern of South America, Southeast Asia and Madagascar (Madriñán 2004). In Brazil there are around 23 genera and 420 species, with high diversity in tropical rain forests (Quinet *et al.* 2010).

Endlicheria Nees is a neotropical genus of Lauraceae with high diversity in South America, reaching from Costa Rica and Caribbean islands to southern Brazil. This genus is recognized by 60 species of trees or shrubs, characterized by non-involucrate inflorescences, a dioecious breeding system, and two-locellate anthers (Chanderbali 2004). Recent molecular studies of Lauraceae showed that *Endlicheria* is not monophyletic, with species allied to *Rhodostemonodaphne* Rohwer and Kubitzki and *Ocotea* Aubl (Chanderbali *et al.* 2001; Chanderbali 2004).

Chanderbali (2004) prepared the last taxonomic revision of *Endlicheria*, describing 16 new species and demonstrating the strong relationship with *Rhodostemonodaphne* and *Ocotea*. In Brazil, several taxonomic treatments with Lauraceae including *Endlicheria* were conducted, especially Barroso (1949), Vattimo-Gil (1966), Vicentini *et al.* (1999), Quinet and Andreato (2002), Baitello *et al.* (2003), Moraes (2005), Quinet (2005), Assis *et al.* (2005), Kropf *et al.* (2006) and Quinet *et al.* (2010). These studies accounted 41 species of *Endlicheria* (10 endemics) from Brazil, with high diversity in the Amazon and Atlantic forest (Chanderbali 2004; Quinet *et al.* 2010).

Although possess heterogeneous vegetation formations types, such as the Pantanal, Cerrado, Chaco, and Atlantic Forest (Rizzini 1979), which are interesting for floristic and biogeographic studies, the flora from Mato Grosso do Sul is fairly unexplored by science (Pott *et al.* 2006). Therefore, this is among the Brazilian states with lower rates of botanical collections per square kilometre (Peixoto 2003; Martinelli and Martins 2010), compromising the

development of conservation strategies (Souza 2010).

We conducted this study by examining herbarium specimens from Mato Grosso do Sul state deposited in national herbaria. Only one *Endlicheria lhotzkyi* (Nees) Mez (Figure 1) specimen was found: BRAZIL. Mato Grosso do Sul: Sonora, July 2009, margin of the Rio Correntes - PCH Santa Gabriela, fr., Frison, S. s.n. (CGMS, ESA). The collect of *E. lhotzkyi* present two duplicates, deposited in the CGMS and ESA herbaria collections (acronym according Holmgren *et al.* 1990) from University of Mato Grosso do Sul, Campo Grande-MS and University of São Paulo, Piracicaba-SP, respectively.



FIGURE 1. Sample of *Endlicheria lhotzkyi* collected at Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil (scale bar = 8 cm).

Endlicheria lhotzkyi is an endemic and characteristic species from central region of Brazil (Chanderbali 2004), represented for small trees of gallery forests apparently restricted to the Cerrado vegetation (Chanderbali 2004; Moraes 2005). The species was previously referred to Mato Grosso, Goiás and Tocantins Brazilian states (Chanderbali 2004; Moraes 2005; Quinet *et al.* 2010) and did not cite for Mato Grosso do Sul state in the last list of "The Brazilian Catalogue of Plants" (Quinet *et al.* 2010). *Endlicheria lhotzkyi* was now first time collected also along the riparian forest at in the Rio Correntes, municipality of Sonora, state of Mato Grosso do Sul (Figure 2). Therefore, two species of *Endlicheria* can be found in Mato Grosso do

Sul, Brazil: *E. lhotzkyi* and *E. paniculata*. A key containing these species is presented below.

Key to the *Endlicheria* species from Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil

1. Lower surface of mature leaves not visible through the sericeous indument; lamina coriaceous. ***Endlicheria lhotzkyi***

1'. Lower surface of mature leaves clearly visible through the pubescent indument; lamina chartaceous to membranaceous. ***Endlicheria paniculata***

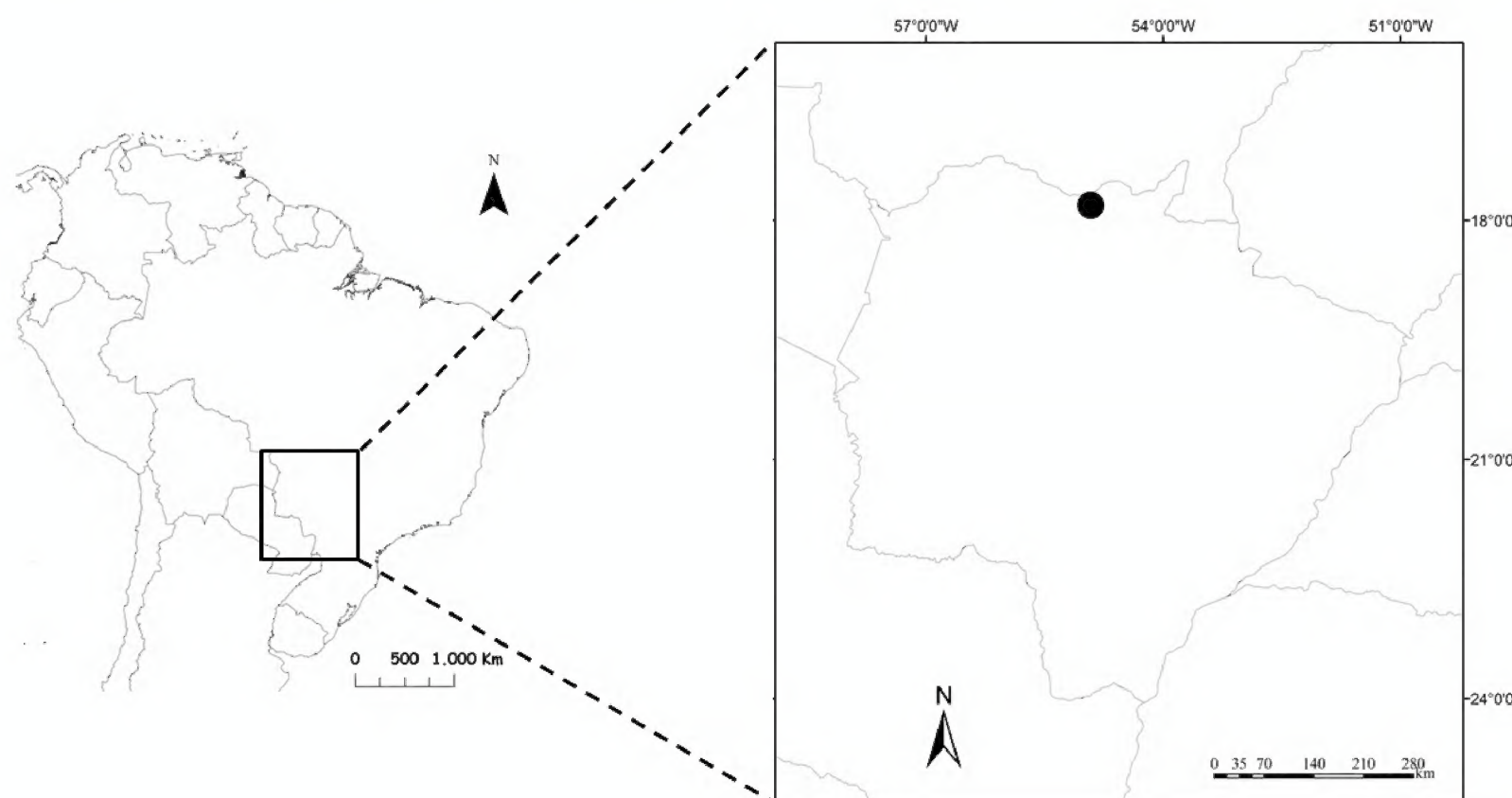


FIGURE 2. Location of *Endlicheria lhotzkyi* in Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil (dot).

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